Lok Adalats in UP

*395. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Lok Adalats held in Uttar Pradesh during the year 1986-87 and the number of cases disposed of by them; and

(b) what are the details of the progress made so far in setting up of family court in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): According to the information furnished by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes:—

(a) 122 Lok Adalats have been held during the year 1986-87 and 1,31,879 cases were disposed of during the period.

(b) Two Family Courts have been set up in the State of Uttar Pradesh, one at Lucknow and the other at Kanpur.

Refund of deposits by automobile manufacturers

*396. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that most of the automobile manufacturers do not repay the amount of deposit and interest to its prospective customers when they want to cancel the registration and request for the refund of the deposit amount and the interest accrued thereon;

(b) whether Government propose to issue some guidelines to be followed strictly by all such manufacturers to refund the deposit amount for registration of a vehicle within a specified time;

(c) if so, by when such guidelines are proposed to be issued; and

(d) in case such guidelines are already there, what are the details in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Though there are some instances of delay in refunding the deposit money due to non-compliance of certain formalities stipulated by the manufacturers, no complaint of non-refund of deposit money by the manufacturers has been brought to the notice of the Government. The interest on such money is paid by the manufacturers as per the terms and conditions announced at the time of booking of vehicles.

(b) to (d) A copy of the guidelines issued to the automobile manufacturers for utilisation of advance money and advising them to arrange early refund of such money is laid on the Table of the House.

Guidelines for Deployment of Funds taken by the Companies as advance for booking of vehicles

The question of automotive manufacturers accepting deposit as advance for booking of vehicles has been engaging attention of the Government for some time. While these advances may be essentially in the nature of a civil contract, it is not unusual for the depositors to expect a reasonble return in the form of interest and seek reassurance about their deposits even through Government intervention It is, therefore, essential that amounts received from depositors are deployed in a manner which would enable the company to make prompt refunds of the principal amount alongwith the interest. With a view to maintaining adequate security of depositors money, Government have considered it desirable to prescribe the following guidelines:—

(i) Not less than fifty per cent of the deposits received should be deposited with nationalised banks|public sector financial institutions|public sector undertakings/Unit Trust of India and H.D.F.C.